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Attorney Docket No: 3339 P 005 (114180.1)





IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants submit herewith Form PTO-1449, "Information Disclosure Statement."

The Examiner is requested to consider carefully the complete text of the enclosed references in connection with the examination of this application. It is requested that the listed references be made of record and included in the "References Cited" portion of any patent issuing from this application.

Since this Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Official Action on the merits, no fee is necessary. Please charge any fee associated with this Communication to our Deposit Account No. 23-0280.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 18, 2001

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

on January 18, 2001.

Sharon K Boswell (114180 1)